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SUBJECT: RWANDA NAMES AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE

REF: KIGALI 870

¶1. (SBU) During a December 16 cabinet meeting, the Government of Rwanda (GOR) designated Jacques Kabare to serve as Rwanda's next ambassador to France, less than a month after the two countries announced their intention to reestablish diplomatic ties. Since approximately 2005, Kabare has headed the legal department at the African Development Bank (AfDB). Before that, he served as personal assistant to Rwanda's former finance minister, Donald Kaberuka, and was part the campaign team that was behind Kaberuka's successful bid to become AfDB chairman. Kabare was a member of the commission that drafted Rwanda's 2003 constitution, and was also a legal advisor in the finance ministry.

¶2. (SBU) Bio Note: Kabare was born and raised in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and received a law degree from the University of Kinshasa. He also completed a master's degree in law in Belgium. He is a member of the ruling Rwanda Patriotic Front party.

SYMINGTON